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REFERENCES:

ATTACHMENT TO L-4795
9 FEBRUARY 1968
PAGE 1

NEW ROAD
RATANAKIRI PROVINCE, CAMBODIA

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS A NEW ROAD WHICH CAN BE USED IN THE TRANSPORT OF SUPPLIES TO ENEMY FORCES LOCATED IN THE TONLE SAN BASE AREA.

2. LOCATION:

THE ROAD IS LOCATED BETWEEN THE TONLE SAN (RIVER) AND ROUTE 194, FOUR NM NORTH OF BUNG LUNG.

3. COLLATERAL:

EASTERN RATANAKIRI PROVINCE FROM THE AREA OF THE TONLE SAN (SE SAN IN SOUTH VIETNAM) SOUTH ACROSS ROUTE 19 TO THE PREK DRANG VALLEY (IA DRANG IN SOUTH VIETNAM) APPEARS TO BE THE MOST EXTENSIVE AREA IN CAMBODIA BEING USED AS A VC/NVA BASE. THIS BASE IS CENTERED IN SOUTH VIETNAM BUT EXTENDS INTO A STRIP OF CAMBODIA TERRITORY ABOUT FIVE TO TEN MILES IN WIDTH AND TWENTY-FIVE MILES IN LENGTH. THIS PORTION OF THE BASE IN CAMBODIA FORMS PART OF THE LOGISTICAL SYSTEM FOR ACQUISITION AND STORAGE OF SUPPLIES. IT ALSO PROVIDES FACILITIES IN CAMBODIA FOR SANCTUARY, HOSPITALIZATION, REST, AND TRAINING.

DEVELOPMENT OF THIS AREA INTO A MAJOR VC BASE IS REVEALED BY AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY. IN NOVEMBER 1965, DURING THE CHU PONG MOUNTAIN BATTLE THAT RAGED THROUGHOUT THE IA DRANG VALLEY IN SOUTH VIETNAM, PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF ADJOINING AREAS IN CAMBODIA, PARTICULARLY THE PREK DRANG VALLEY, REVEALED PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF NUMEROUS WELL-USED TRAILS CRISSCROSSING THE BORDER AREAS GENERALLY FROM ONE REMOTE HEAVILY WOODED AREA TO ANOTHER. EQUALLY

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REFERENCES

ATTACHMENT TO L-4795
9 FEBRUARY 1968
PAGE 2

REMOTE AREA. UNOCCUPIED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS POSITIONS AND FOXHOLES WERE IDENTIFIED ON AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE VICINITY OF UTM YV795978 AND WELL INSIDE CAMBODIA TO A MAXIMUM OF ABOUT FIVE MILES. IN LATE 1966, PHOTOGRAPHY IN THIS AREA SHOWED IN ADDITION NUMEROUS THATCHED BUILDINGS WITH ASSOCIATED TRAILS, DEFENSE POSITIONS, AND ROW CROP AGRICULTURE IN WIDELY DISPERSED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE REGION ADJACENT TO THE BORDER.¹

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEAL A NEW ROAD EXTENDING FROM ROUTE 194 AT 13-48-10N 106-59-52E (UTM YA159267) IN A GENERALLY NORTH-NORTHEAST DIRECTION TO THE SOUTH BANK OF THE TONLE SAN AT 14-04-20N 107-09-08E (UTM YA323567). THE ROAD APPEARS TO BE WELL USED WITH BRIDGES LOCATED AT STREAM CROSSINGS. TRUCK PARKS ARE OBSERVED AT 13-52-00N 107-01-00E (UTM YA197343, YA184341, YA185349, AND YA196353). A SUSPECT STORAGE AREA WITH CONSIDERABLE GROUND SCARRING UNDER THE TREES AND AT LEAST EIGHT CRATES AND AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE ROAD AT 13-49-55N 107-01-35E (UTM YA189300).

[REDACTED]

UTM COORDINATES ARE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L7011, SHEETS 6352 II, 6452 III IV, AND 6453 III.

¹
"COMMUNIST USE OF CAMBODIA IN SUPPORT OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM: INFILTRATION AND BASE AREAS"
CIA, DIA, AND THE BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT

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REFERENCES:

ATTACHMENT TO L-4795
9 FEBRUARY 1968
PAGE 3

AUGUST 1967 (~~SECRET~~)

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